

WELCOME TO
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF BISMARCK, ND



John 10, 11-18

April 26, 2026

10:00a.m. Service

Our Mission

We are a community called to love God through worship and prayer, receiving and serving our neighbors with the compassion of Christ, open to new beginnings and the spiritual growth of children, youth and adults.

WE WELCOME OUR GUESTS THIS MORNING AND
INVITE YOU TO MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME!



PLEASE FEEL FREE TO JOIN US FOR
COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWING WORSHIP.

ATTENDANCE BOOKS

You will find an Attendance Pad at the end of each pew.
Please fill it out and leave it in pew for the church office to collect.
(please include any updated address information) Thank you to
everyone for helping us with collecting attendance and statistics
we submit to the Presbytery.

PLEASE FILL OUT YOUR “PINK PRAYER REQUEST CARDS”
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, THE USHERS WILL COLLECT THEM
DURING THE OPENING HYMN. THANK YOU!

“4th Sunday of Easter” 10:00am
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

(*Asterisks indicate that all who are able are requested to stand,
bold texts are to be read in unison)

Prelude “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” arr. Oliva Cresswell

Welcome and Announcements Ray Wertz

Introit “All Creatures of Our God and King” arr. John A. Behnke

***Call to Worship** (responsively) JoAnn Hodny

Leader: Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!

All: Behold! The Savior of the world is risen!

Leader: Fling wide the portals of your hearts:

All: Let us feel the presence of the God’s grace and love!

Leader: O Holy spirit, lead us on in worship;

All: Call us each by name, that we may give God glory!

Gathering in God’s Name

***Opening Hymn** “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us “ PH #387

Choral Call to Confession “Come and Fill Our Hearts”

lyrics: Jacques Berthier

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, Alleluia!

Prayer of Confession (unison)

All: Jesus said, “I am the Good Shepherd; I know my own, and my own know me” (John 10:14). In confession, we trust God to know us fully: the good and the bad, the faithful and the sinful. But we also know God’s faithfulness, God’s mercy, and God’s power to redeem us and lead us into new life.

Trusting in this promise, let us confess our sins together.

Assurance of Pardon (responsively) Ray

Leader: The proof God’s amazing love is this: while we were yet sinners, Christ came to us; Christ died for us; and Christ →

rose from the dead so that the gates of hell and heaven may be thrown open wide and all of creation renewed. So believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and restored to new, abundant life.

All: Alleluia! Amen!

***Gloria Patri and Passing of the Peace of Christ**

Young Disciples Message

Mark Jensen

***Prayer of Gratitude for the Grace of Giving**

All: Shepherding God, you lead us, guard us, prepare us and preserve us. We have responded by giving back to you what has come from your hand. Bless these gifts, and multiply them in the life of your church, so that the gates of salvation may be flung wide, and all your Beloved Community may know the love and the peace that is ours in Christ Jesus. Amen.

***Doxology and Dedication of Gifts**

Proclamation of the Word of God

Prayer of Illumination

JoAnn

O God, give us the listening ear. Give us the listening ear that will not shrink from a word that corrects and admonishes; a word that challenges us to deeper consecration and higher resolve; a word that lays bare the needs that make our days uneasy; a word that seizes upon everything decent in our nature and channels it into paths of healing in the lives of others. Give us, O Lord, the listening ear. Amen.

First Scripture Reading *Psalm 23*

JoAnn

The Divine Shepherd
A Psalm of David.

1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;

3 he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff - they comfort me.



5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.

Anthem “Ascend! Together We Rise!” Sandra Eithun

Second Scripture Reading *John 10:11-18* Ray

11 ‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. 13 The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. 17 For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.’

Sermon “Performance Review”

***Confession of Our Faith (unison)** “Apostles Creed” PH #14

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost. Born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; —————>

the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Responding to God's Word

*Closing Hymn "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!" PH #113

Sending Forth in God's Name

Benediction and Blessing Ray

Benediction Response "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"
arr. Michael Joy

Postlude "Praise Him! Praise Him!" arr. Olivia Cresswell

The Westminster Chimes anthem today was one of the massed ringing pieces from the March 7th Twin Cities Bellfest event.



LAY READERS NEEDED:



Please sign up to be a **Lay Reader** on the bulletin board.

Calendar

- Mon., April 27 - **6:30pm** Scouts
- Tue., April 28 - **11:00am** Strength & Balance Class
2:00pm Yoga for Life
2:00pm Presby Friends
5:30pm AA (room #201)
6:00pm Session
- Wed., April 29 - **5:45pm** PAC/Teens
6:30pm Bells
7:30pm Choir
- Thu., April 30 - **11:00am** Strength & Balance Class
- Fri., May 1 - ***FPC Youth Spring Retreat in Moorhead, MN (5/1-5/3)***
- Sat., May 2 - *No Activities Scheduled*
- Sun., May 3 - **10:00am** - communion
- Mon., May 4 - 6:00pm Suzuki Spring Recital***

Worship Participants:

Ray Wertz, Lay Pastor
Debi Rogers, Chancel Choir dir.
Lael Hoerauf, Westminster Chimes dir.
Andrea Nguyen, Keyboards
Mark Jensen, Youth Ministry dir.
JoAnn Hodny, Lay Reader
Josh Stokka, Audio/Visual Specialist
Neva & Ron Carlisle, Mary & Keith Magnusson,
Kimball Banks, and Andrew Horn ~ Ushers

THOUGHTS & PRAYERS FOR THE FAMILY OF

Vern Spitzer

May 25, 1930 - April 18, 2026

service will be at a later date...



BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC

TODAY APRIL 26TH

9:00AM - 10:00AM AND 11:00AM - 12:00PM

Last clinic until fall - feel free to contact the church office this summer if you want to set up an appt. with Carmen.

**You can view our church's worship services
on public access television, Sundays at noon!
Midco channel #12 or #612 (Community Access TV)**

THANK YOU FOR ALL THE PORT PILLOWS

Keep them coming!! The Sanford Cancer Center is in need of chemo port pillows for their patients. If you are interested in helping, there is a simple sewing pattern available in the church office. For more information, please reach out to Cathy Kinnischtzke. 527-3393.



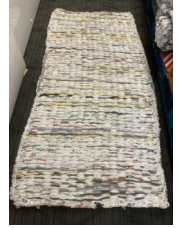
Monday, May 4

Suzuki Spring Recital

6:00pm in FPC Sanctuary!

Collecting plastic grocery bags for a good cause!

Our Hospitality Committee is collecting used plastic grocery bags for a project to make mats to give to homeless people. The bags must NOT have any holes. The committee is working with a woman who creates the mats, like the one pictured here, by hand-weaving the plastic bags. It takes about 500 bags to make one mat. The committee decided to test whether the congregation would support this effort, hoping this could be a long-term outreach (and environmentally friendly) project for our congregation. The mats will be given to groups who work with the homeless in our area! THANK YOU
As of today she has made over 100 mats!



Upcoming Important Dates:

Sunday, May 3 - Communion Sunday

Monday, May 4 - Suzuki Spring Recital @ 6:00pm

Sunday, May 10 - Youth Service (Mother's Day)

Sunday, May 17 - Undie Sunday & Grad Recognition

Sunday, May 24 - Day of Pentecost

**Monday, May 25 - FPC OFFICES CLOSED
(Memorial Day)**

Sunday, May 31 - Trinity Sunday

Munch & Mingle!

Broadway Grill (100 W Broadway Ave.)

12:00pm - Broadway Grill & Tavern

Wednesday, May 6, 2026!



HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE: During April, the Hospitality Committee is asking for ingredients to fill snack bags. Heaven's Helpers' Soup Café volunteers will use the donated items to put together snack bags for their guests.

Peanuts (Without the shell)

M&M's

Dried Cranberries

Reece's Pieces

Crackers

Chex Mix

Sunflower Seeds

Cereal (Larger, non-crumblly cereal such as Cheerios or Kix)

Snack Size Baggies

Items can be dropped off at the donation box in the Narthex.

Thanks for your generosity.

Heaven's Helpers



PER CAPITA
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The Per Capita Special Offering is a special offering of our church that extends the entire year. We start to talk about it in January of each year and provide added information throughout the year in the form of periodic minutes for mission, special articles in the newsletter and church bulletins. Per Capita is the amount that the church must pay to the larger church for each member of the church. This year that amount is \$50 per member. We request that each member consider giving a gift to the church of \$50 to cover their share of the church's financial obligation to the larger church. If you are a member that pledges income each year to the church, and would like to be able to help support other members who might find it financially unfeasible to pledge or to make the separate per capita donation, your separate gift of \$50 will help cover the cost of membership for that less fortunate member of the church. Thank you.

The First Presbyterian Church Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the availability of a limited number of scholarships for our church community. To be eligible for consideration to receive a scholarship, a student must be an active member of First Presbyterian Church of Bismarck or must have been an active participant in the life of the church for at least three years. Students at any level of study beyond high school are eligible to receive a scholarship award.

Students are eligible to receive a scholarship for a maximum of four years: the years do not need to be consecutive. Graduate students may apply for scholarships, providing they are within the four-year maximum. Applications are available in the

Narthex, in the church office, and for download from the front page of the church website at

www.fcpbismarck.com The deadline to apply is 4:30pm on Friday, **May 15, 2026.**



“Undie Sunday”

Boxers, briefs, hipster, granny pants, hi-cut, action figures, cotton or nylon—you decide...

The Hospitality Committee will be collecting appropriate NEW underwear of all sizes and shapes (kids and adults) on **Sunday, May 17th.**



During the service there will be an opportunity to toss the underwear into baskets (with help from our youth). Please consider helping with this project. All items will be distributed to the Heart River Correctional Facility and the Abused Adult Resource Center.

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Leanne Simmons, Pastor

Maureen Chrest, Administrative Assistant

Carol Thompson, Financial Assistant

Carmen Bryhn, Parish Nurse

Erik Hein Sr., Maintenance

Arvy Smith, Pianist/Organist

Gail Snustad, Pianist/Organist

Debi Rogers, Chancel Choir Director

Lael Hoerauf, Westminster Chimes Director

Josh Stokka, Audio/Visual Specialist

Judy Lentz, Membership Services Coordinator

Mary Jones, and Laci Rauser, Nursery

Mark Jensen, Youth Ministry Director

Erik Hein Jr., Sunday Security

Connor Svihovec, C.E. Intern



We are so grateful for all the blessings God has given us!

We no longer pass the offering plates, our offering baskets are next to the exits of the Sanctuary. If you would like to give a donation to the ministry of this church you can also go to our website: fpcbismarck.com and click on the DONATE button. Thank you!

